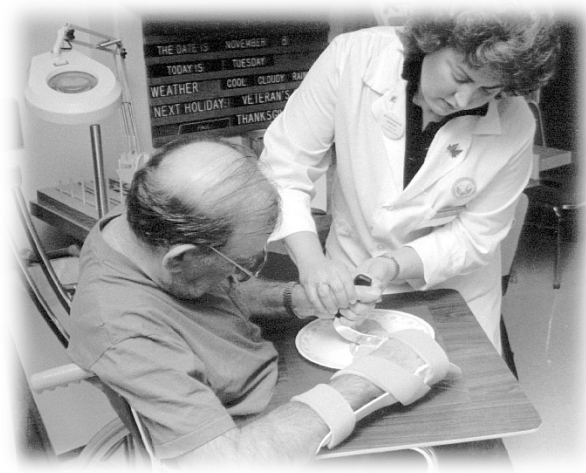


*Leading Health Care  
Into The 21st Century*



# Geriatrics & Extended Care Programs



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## Nursing Home Care

Nursing home care provides a range of diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, and compassionate end-of-life care. This level of care takes place in an institutional setting. Nursing staff in each setting gives care in keeping with interdisciplinary plans of care. These plans of care have been designed to restore, optimize and maintain each patient's level of function, personal autonomy, and dignity.

Nursing home care has a range of intensities. These ranges reflect the patients' level of need. Multidisciplinary clinical assessments help the staff to determine the required range of care. Assessments are completed in keeping with community practice and standards.

## Geriatric Primary Care

Geriatric patients receive primary care. This is done through coordinated interdisciplinary medical/nursing care and psychosocial services. Also included are preventive health services, health education to patients and caregivers, referral for specialty. Rehabilitation, follow-up and overall care management by primary care provider and support team also is provided.

## Respite

Respite provides care to veterans on a short-term basis. This program gives the caregiver a planned period of relief from the physical and emotional burdens of giving daily care to a person who is chronically ill or severely disabled. Services are limited to 30 days per year.



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## Palliative Care

Palliative Care is a coordinated program of supportive services. This program provides comfort both in home and in-patient settings. This service is designed for persons in the last phases of incurable disease so a patient may live as fully and as comfortably as possible. Palliative care programs help to manage pain, physical symptoms, and the psychosocial problems. They also help with the spiritual comfort of the patient and the patient's family or other primary care person.

Bereavement care is available to the family following the death of the patient. It may include a medically directed interdisciplinary team of health care providers and volunteers to provide services.

In contrast to hospice, palliative services may not be available 24-hours a day, seven days a week. They are not limited to those patients medically judged to be within the final six months of terminal disease. Palliative care may be provided by the VA (directly or through contract) or referred to community agencies.

## Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)

The adult day health care program is a therapeutic day care program. This program offers medical and rehabilitation to disabled veterans in a group setting. ADHC offers a protective setting during part of a day but less than 24-hour care. Individualized programs of care are delivered by health professionals and support staff. ADHC focuses on helping veterans and their caregivers develop the knowledge and build the skills needed to manage care in the home. This service may be VA directed or contracted to community agencies.



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## **Skilled Home Care (Fee-Basis and Contract Home Care)**

Skilled Home Care is home health services that are medically necessary. Examples are nursing care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and social work. These supportive medical services are prescribed by and under the direction of a VA physician (or contracted physician).

Care is authorized when it is necessary for effective and economical treatment, is required, and there are compelling medical reasons for this authorization. Care may include the following skilled services: catheter irrigation, colostomy bag changes, dressing changes, external catheter changes, medication administration. Help with prosthetic devices, massage, and turning, positioning and transferring the patient also is included.

Due to the physical limitations and special needs of spinal cord injury patients, bathing may be provided as a fee-basis home health service. This service is available after bowel and bladder care has been given.

**Visit Us On the Web At:**

[www.va.gov/visns/visn02/cslines/gecline/gecline.html](http://www.va.gov/visns/visn02/cslines/gecline/gecline.html)



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## **Homemaker/Home Health Aide (H/HHA)**

The H/HHA program provides personal care services to certain patients who meet the criteria for nursing home placement. These services are obtained from public and private agencies using Contract Nursing Home funds.

Homemaker services include housekeeping, laundry, meal preparation, grocery shopping, patient escort to appointments, and patient safety.

Home Health Aide services include help with activities of daily living (ADL), aid in walking or transfers, active and passive exercises, help with medical equipment and routine health monitoring. Specific household tasks are done to maintain a safe environment in areas of the home used by the patient.

## **Home-Based Primary Care**

HBPC program provides primary care in the home. Homebound veterans receive care that is delivered by a physician-supervised interdisciplinary team based at a VA health care facility. These are veterans whose medical complexity and functional impairment make care in an ambulatory setting unsuitable.



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## Community Residential Care

Community Residential Care provides health care supervision to eligible veterans not in need of hospital or nursing home care. Community Residential Care is available for the veteran who cannot live independently. This veteran also has no family or significant others to give the needed supervision and supportive care. This level of care is required because of a medical or psycho-social health condition as shown through a statement of needed care.

Community Residential Care Homes provide room, board, help with activities of daily living, and supervision. The goal is to maintain or improve veterans' health and social functioning in a non-institutional, supportive setting.



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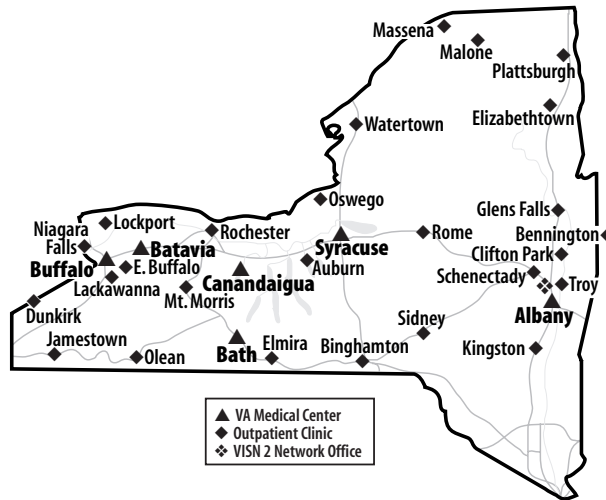
## For More Information On Any Of These Programs

Contact Your Nearest  
VA Healthcare Network  
Upstate New York Medical Center

<b>Network Office</b>	(518) 462-3311 Ext. 3484
<b>Albany</b>	(518) 462-3311 Ext. 3167
<b>Bath</b>	(607) 664-4508
<b>Buffalo/Batavia</b>	(800) 532-VETS
<b>Canandaigua</b>	(716) 393-7506
<b>Syracuse</b>	(315) 477-4512



## Reaching Us Is Easy



### VA Healthcare On The Web

<http://www.va.gov/visns/visn02/>

You'll find more than 1400 pages designed to make it easy for veterans to access accurate, up-to-date information about VA healthcare. You'll also find specific information on VA Women Veterans Health Services.

### Upstate New York Veterans ~

Wherever you are, When you need help ...

**VA TELCARE**  
**1-888-838-7890**

